



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 02-258
February 4, 2002

**AMBIENT CORPORATION SEEKS COMMISSION DETERMINATION
OF "EXEMPT TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY" STATUS
UNDER THE PUBLIC UTILITY HOLDING COMPANY ACT**

NSD File No: ETC 02-01
Pleading Cycle Established

Comments Due: February 19, 2002 Reply Comments Due: February 26, 2002

On **January 14, 2002**, **Ambient Corporation** (Ambient or Applicant), located at **1033 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA 02446**, filed an application requesting a determination by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) that it is an "exempt telecommunications company" (ETC), pursuant to section 34(a)(1) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 (PUHCA),¹ as amended by section 103 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act).²

The application states that Ambient is a Delaware Corporation that is engaged in the business of providing products and services used in power line communications (PLC). Applicant explains that PLC enables broadband Internet access and related information services to be delivered over existing medium and low voltage power lines to the electrical outlets in residences and business for use by subscribers. According to the application, Ambient qualifies for ETC status because it is and will be engaged directed and exclusively in the business of providing: (1) information services; 2) other services or products subject to the jurisdiction of the FCC; or 3) products or services that are related or incidental to the provision of the foregoing services, within the meaning of section 34(a)(1)(B), (C), or (D) of PUHCA. Ambient states that it is the developer and owner of proprietary technology for PLC, and that it is entering into business relationships with other companies, including electrical utilities who may be subject to PUHCA, for purposes of developing, testing and marketing PLC products and services.

In accordance with section 1.5004 of the Commission's rules, if the Commission does not issue an order denying an ETC application within sixty (60) days of receipt of an application, in this case **March 18, 2002**, the application will be deemed granted as a matter of law.³ In

¹See 15 U.S.C. §§ 79 *et seq.*

²See Pub. L. No. 104-104.

³See 47 C.F.R § 1.5004.

accordance with section 1.5003, a person applying in good faith for a Commission determination of ETC status is deemed to be an ETC from the date of receipt of the application, in this case **January 14, 2002**, until the date of Commission action pursuant to section 1.5004.⁴ In accordance with section 1.5005, the Secretary of the Commission is now notifying the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) that the Applicant is deemed to be an Exempt Telecommunications Company.⁵ In the event that the Commission issues an order denying the application within sixty (60) days of its receipt, the Secretary will so notify the SEC. Otherwise, the Commission will take no further action to grant this application.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁶ Persons wishing to file comments regarding the adequacy or accuracy of **Ambient Corporation**'s application requesting status as an ETC must do so no later than **February 19, 2002**. Reply comments must be filed no later than **February 26, 2002**. All filings concerning any of the matters referenced in this Public Notice should refer to NSD file number **ETC 02-01**. All comments should also be served on the Applicant.

Interested parties should file an original and four (4) copies of their comments with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, parties should send one (1) copy to Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com, and two (2) copies to Carmell Weathers, Common Carrier Bureau, Network Services Division, FCC, 445 12th Street, SW, Room 6-A207, Washington, D.C. 20554. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-2345, Attention: Jon Minkoff.

Interested parties who wish to file comments via messenger-delivery or hand-delivery are also notified that effective December 18, 2001, the Commission will only receive such deliveries weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., via its contractor, Vistronix, Inc., located at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. **The Commission no longer accepts these filings at 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.** Please note that all hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners, and envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. In addition, this is a reminder that as of October 18, 2001, the Commission no longer accepts hand-delivered or messenger-delivered filings at its headquarters at 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Other messenger-delivered documents, including documents sent by overnight mail (other than United States Postal Service (USPS) Express and Priority Mail), must be addressed to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. This location is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. USPS First-Class, Express, and Priority Mail should be addressed to the Commission's headquarters at 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. The following chart summarizes this information:

⁴See 47 C.F.R. § 1.5003.

⁵See 47 C.F.R. § 1.5005.

⁶See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 - 1.1216.

TYPE OF DELIVERY	PROPER DELIVERY ADDRESS
Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings	236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002 (Weekdays - 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
Other messenger-delivered documents, including documents sent by overnight mail (this type excludes USPS Express and Priority Mail)	9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 (Weekdays - 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)
USPS First-Class, Express, and Priority Mail	445 12 th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

The application will be available for review and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 418-0270. A copy of the application may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail at qualexint@aol.com.

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), cweather@fcc.gov or Jon Minkoff, (202) 418-2353 (voice), jminkoff@fcc.gov, of the Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau. The TTY number is (202) 418-0484. You may also find more information about Exempt Telecommunications Companies at the Network Services Division website: <http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/nsd/documents/ETC.html>.

-FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION-